



Once Upon a Time in the Midwest

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September 27–October 19, 2007, 10am–5pm, Monday–Friday

Dorothy W. and C. Lawson Reed, Jr. Gallery

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<http://www.daap.uc.edu/art/>

nearest parking Woodside Garage, Woodside Drive, off Martin Luther King Drive



Once Upon A Time In The Midwest includes eighteen participants. The exhibition is curated by Mark Harris, Director of the School of Art and runs in the University of Cincinnati Dorothy W. and C. Lawson Reed, Jr. Gallery, from September 27–October 19 2007. The exhibition focuses on events, relationships, and ideas concerning contemporary art in Cincinnati. Participants feature artists with whom they've been working, or produce their own artwork, in some cases curating a show of their own within the larger one. The exhibition highlights the extraordinary diversity of contemporary art ideas being generated in the region and celebrates the high quality of cutting edge visual art practices associated with Cincinnati. This exhibition recognizes the energy of curators, collectors, and artists behind that work and reveals the enthusiasms of people living here. Hanging next to their artwork are narratives explaining the exhibitors' selections.

Bad Drawing

"Punk 45s from 1977–79 feature some the best bad drawing of the time, which for once found the perfect vehicle for disseminating its feverish images. Here are 20 singles from the Bad Drawing archive."



designsmithgallery

"Once Upon a Time in the Midwest offers an opportunity to bring together the work of three distinct artists sharing an obvious point of convergence: Cincinnati, Ohio. Bill Davis, a Cincinnati native, is joined in exhibition with two Cincinnati-educated artists, Trinidad Mac_Auliffe and Oren Slor. 3 X 3 seeks to explore the possibility of further conjunction."



Matt Distel & Laura Herman

“And to be perfectly sappy, having the artwork of dear friends nearby makes their absence slightly less painful. Like a security blanket on the wall. This selection from our collection comprises works by artists who once lived in Cincinnati but have moved on to other locations. Some were purchased, some were gifts, some are on extended loan.”



Episode Gallery

A Cincinnati student-run gallery focused on performance art. Run by Reid Radcliffe, Heather Calcagno, and Liz Kauffman. Fine Art graduate of SOA.



Maiza Hixson

Modern Ways to Health V.2, 2007. “A pyramid installation with photocopies on wall, ink on paper and foam core, iodine on pampers, various objects, dvd (Nourish Thy Yearning Brain, 2007) and texts: *Modern Ways to Health (Volume I)*, 1962; *DSM-IV-TR*, 2000; *Encyclopedia of Mammals*, 1998; *Bantam Medical Dictionary*, 2005; *The Satanic Rituals*, 1972; *The Encyclopedia of Magic and Witchcraft*, 2004

The title of a medical guide published in 1962, *Modern Ways to Health* provided a prescription for eternal youth based upon an understanding of ‘the great Mind that rules the mighty universe all around us.’ *Modern Ways to Health, V.2* exhumes the book’s premise, visualizing a potential schema for today’s image of wellbeing and the forces behind it.



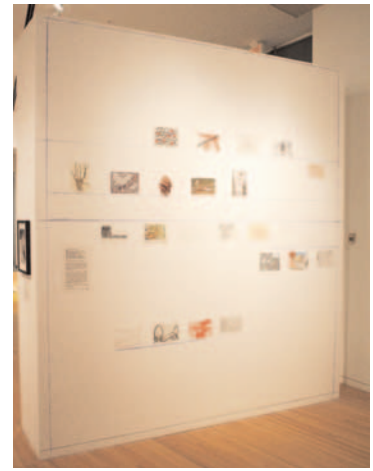
Peter Huttinger & C. V. Mansoor

Peter Huttinger, alum of SOA Fine Art MFA, and previously curator of the Robert Schiffler collection, Greenville Ohio. C. V. Mansoor is a Cincinnati artist. Huttinger & Mansoor feature an installation of various artwork produced by them during the previous twenty years.



Cal Kowal & Anita Douthat

“For the exhibition...we invited artists and other art world colleagues from the Greater Cincinnati area to produce 6”x9” tracings or rubbings reflecting their interpretations of the city. We sent out sheets of tracing paper and left all decisions about content and medium to the artists. In this way, we hoped to present as many artists and perspectives as possible, within the limits of the assigned 10’ x 10’ space.”



Michael Lowe

“Ray and I corresponded for a while, exchanging engaging works and observations. My original contact with him was to acquire a work by him for my collection. My inquiries led to the correspondence and exchange of artworks. My pursuit of his work -aided by him, eventually upset him and provided the material for rather sad / mean mailings. Oh well. Then he jumped from a bridge, backstroking to eternity. I hope I had nothing to do with this, but do suspect that I did in a very minor way. Remaining unknown was such a chore and the commercialization/commodification of his mailings clearly drove him a bit mad. I do remain an ardent fan.”



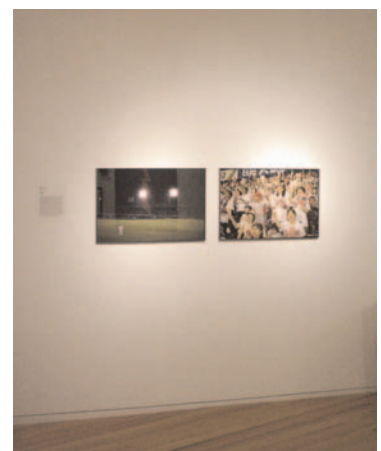
Mark Patsfall & Werner Kernebeck

Mark Patsfall runs Clay Street Press, a vitally important Over The Rhine print workshop that has worked with innumerable international and local artists. For this show Patsfall is collaborating with Berlin artist Werner Kernebeck to make a 10 x 10 foot “map” out of plant fossils he has been retrieving from river beds.



Publico

Publico feature two photographs by Joe Lamb. The experience of cultural displacement and the experience of a sometimes burdensome familiarity are elements that often color the endeavor of doing curatorial work in Cincinnati. In a southern Ohio city at once geographically isolated from the presumed centers of cosmopolitan aesthetic practice, and (by virtue of information age democratization) absorptive of said practice's results, local curatorial efforts frequently embody an intense imbalance between the startling and the banal. In fact, the line between the two often seems to have been erased.



Linda Schwartz

Linda Schwartz used to run a gallery in Cincinnati. Now a private dealer, Schwartz is featuring work by, Keith Benjamin (seen here at right), Tim Rollins & K.O.S., José Versoza, and Matthew Weddington that she had once featured in her gallery.



Semantics

An artist-run gallery in the Brighton district of Cincinnati. David Dillon is one primary organizer. They are showing several video projects by gallery artists.



SIMPARCH & Sandbox

SIMPARCH is a collective that includes SOA sculpture professor Matt Lynch. They have shown at Tate Modern, the Whitney Biennial, Documenta. With Sandbox artists they will feature a project from a few years ago when they toured the country showing a gallery housed in a trailer.



Carl Solway Gallery

"I had the privilege of meeting Emmett Williams—the American poet, visual artist, and Fluxus performer—through my close associate with another artist connected to the Fluxus group, Nam June Paik. In 1991, I went to Berlin to meet with Emmett. I invited him to come to Cincinnati to make a project with my gallery. Emmett enthusiastically accepted the invitation and arrived here in early 1992. Neither of us had a notion of what he would create."



Sue Spaid

“Long before my own move last fall, I considered Cincinnati’s art scene unusually migrational (artists routinely moving there and going away). When Mark Harris emailed me the title “Once Upon a Time in the Midwest” I immediately recalled the first time I heard that Hudson of Feature Gallery had lived there for nine years, or that Lance Kinz and Susan Reynolds (of Feigen Gallery fame) were once Cincinnati artists. I thought it would be interesting to pay tribute to the scores of artists who have spent time there. ...Unfortunately, I couldn’t reach everybody on this list, but about two-thirds of the artists were eager to provide either a memorable artwork or some exhibition souvenir (performance prop, installation drawing, catalog, or exhibition announcement).”



Andy Stillpass

“While Joel [Otterson] was living in Cincinnati, we went to lots of rock concerts together. At the time, I oversaw a large advertising budget and as long as I steered some of it their way the reps from the radio stations seemed more than happy to pass on prime seat tickets for whatever show I requested. These and a steady paycheck are the two things I miss the most about my former job.



Christian Strike/Iconoclast

Christian Strike has chosen a box-set editions conceived for *Beautiful Losers*. It contains twenty-seven prints by *Beautiful Losers* artists. Iconoclast was founded in 2002 by Strike and Aaron Rose as a Cincinnati studio that would initiate collaborations with artists and institutions issuing in a variety of multi-media productions, including books, editions, and exhibitions.



Sara M. & Michelle Vance Waddell

“Patricia Cronin, a New York artist, sculptor and friend was asked to create a bronze cast of my partner Michelle’s remaining breast. Michelle was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2005. After that, several of my art purchases dealt with this topic. This beautiful bronze breast was commissioned in 2005 and the artist calls it ‘Michelle.’”

